



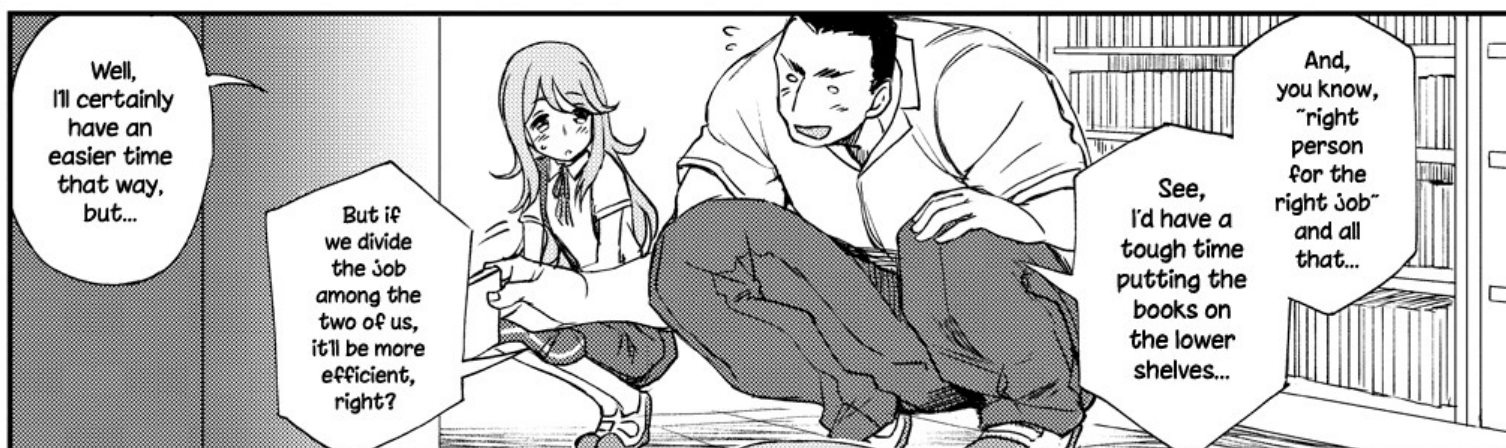


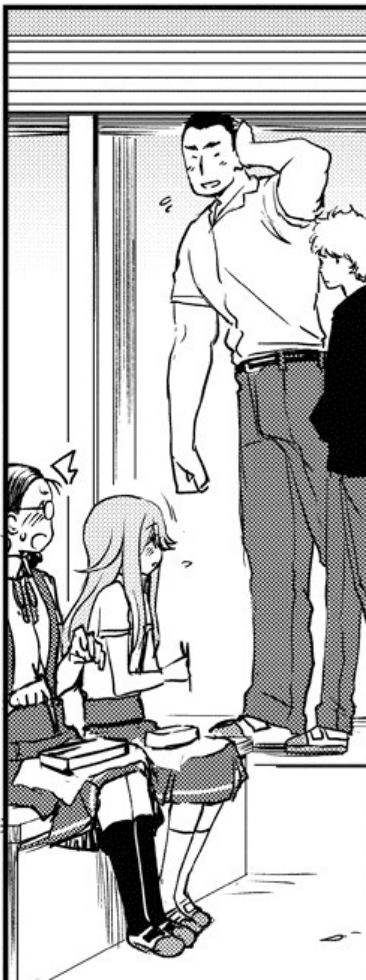
Almost  
didn't  
make it  
in time...

...Pheh...

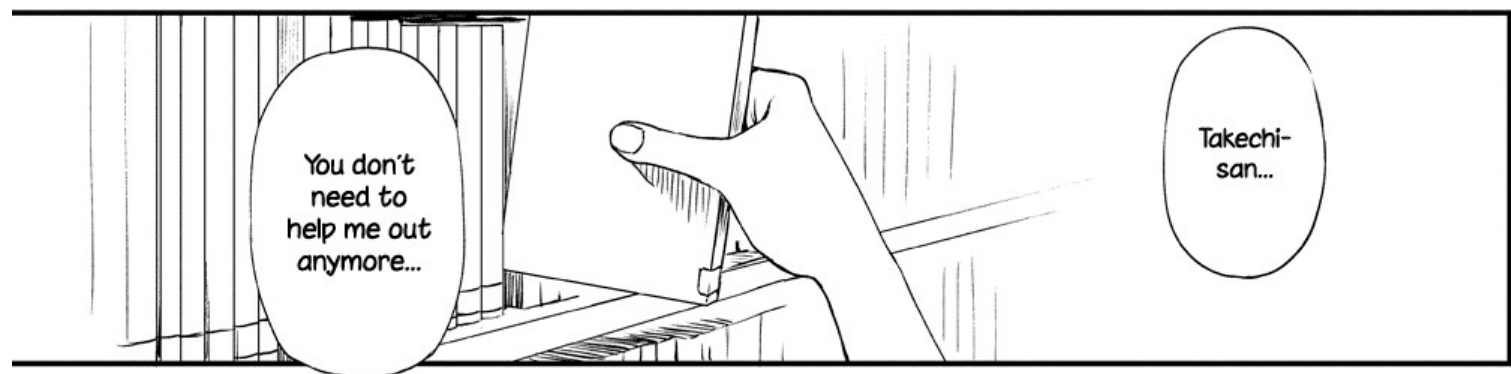
That  
was  
close...













That's...  
why you've  
looked  
after me  
for this  
long, too,  
isn't  
it...?



But  
mostly...  
my small  
frame only  
makes people  
treat me  
like a  
child.

It's not  
all bad  
things,  
of  
course.

Some  
of my  
friends  
seem to  
think it  
makes me  
cuter...



...I too  
have had  
people  
talk about  
my  
height.



As a...  
child...

Just  
don't  
want  
you to  
think of  
me...

No  
matter  
what...

I...



Far  
from it.  
In fact...

I think  
your  
earnest,  
respon-  
sible  
side...

Makes  
you seem  
like a...  
I-lovely  
young  
lady.

Ever  
since  
we first  
met...

I've...  
never  
thought  
of you  
as a  
child.



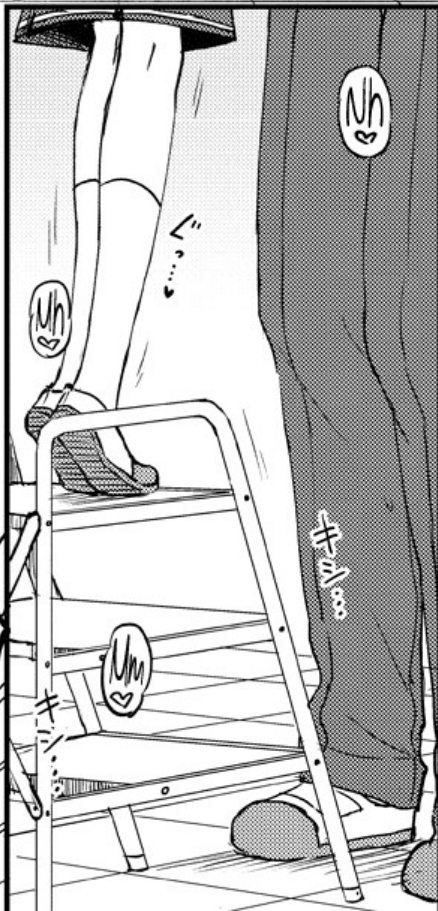
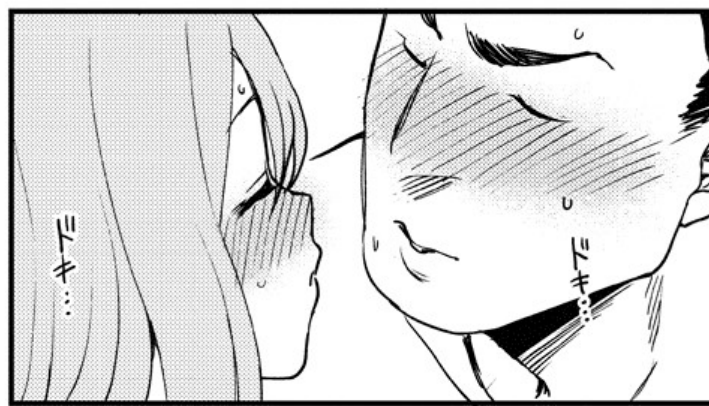
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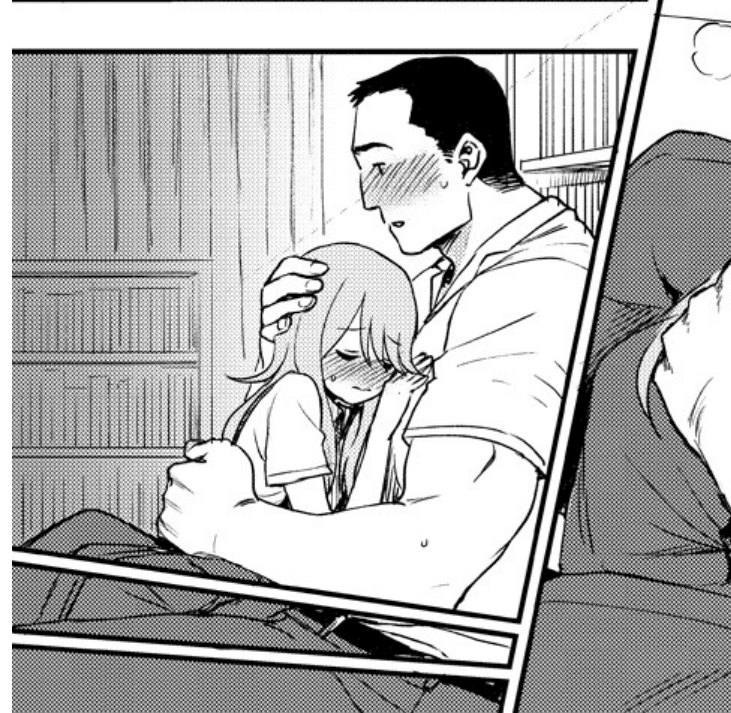
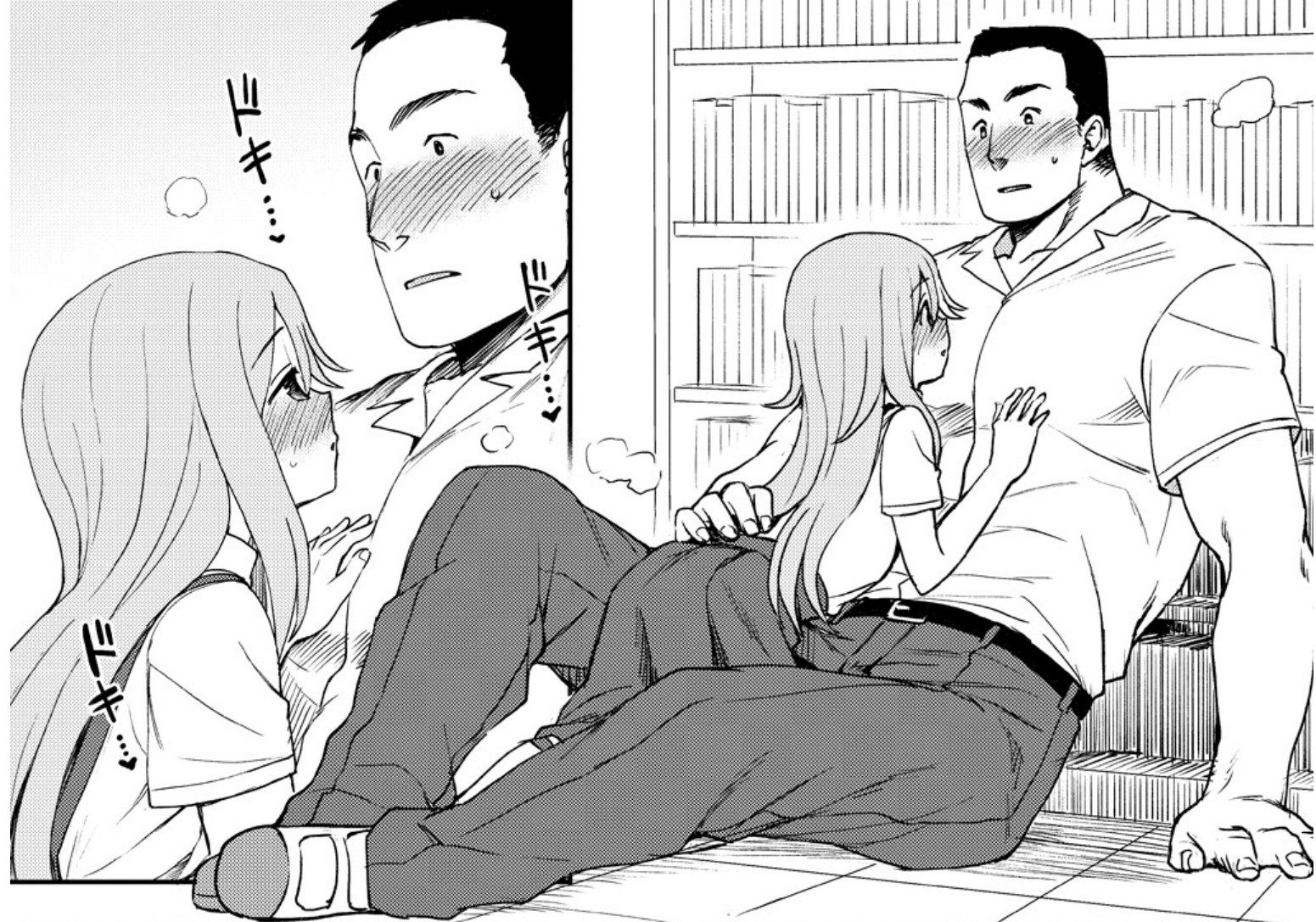
Shi-  
mura-  
san.



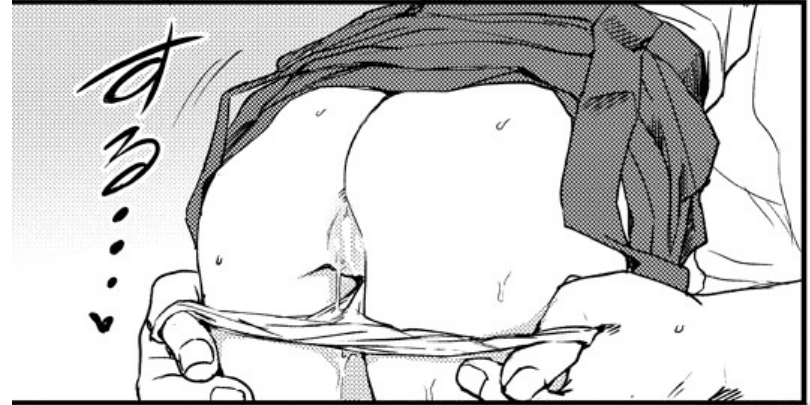
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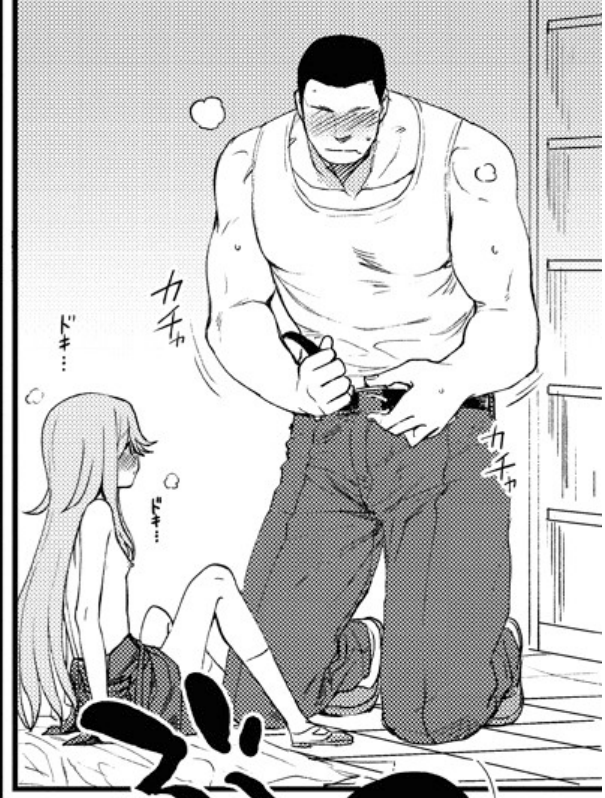






Th-That scared me...  
I didn't expect it to be this big...

W-Will it really fit inside, I wonder...



Excuse me, coming in...!

W-Well then...



I'm fine... really...

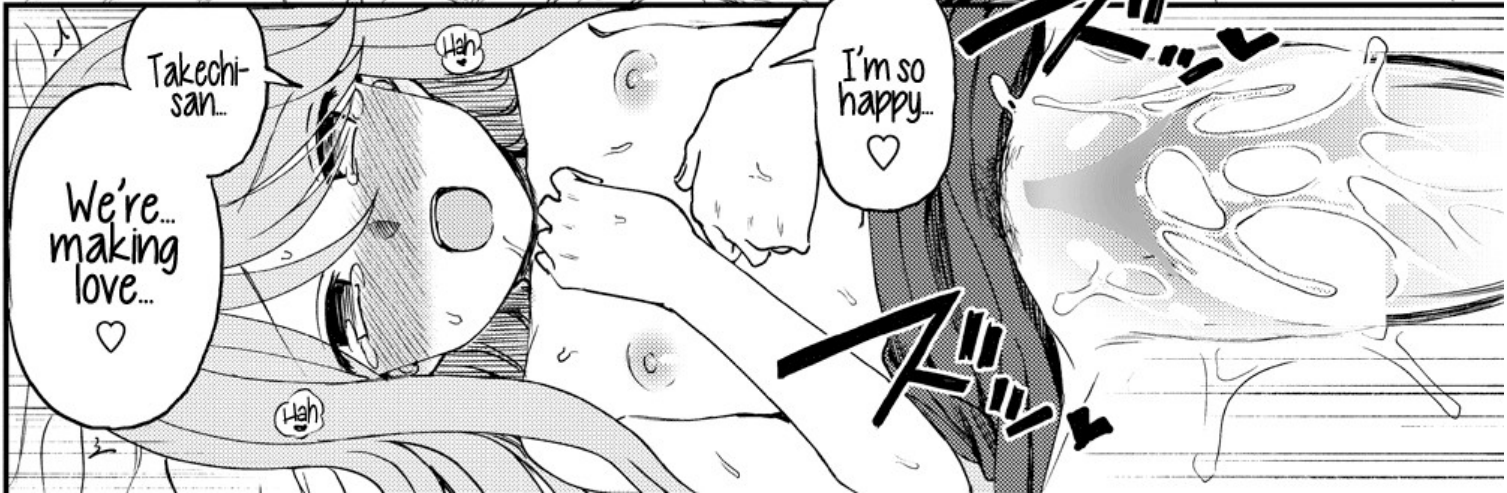
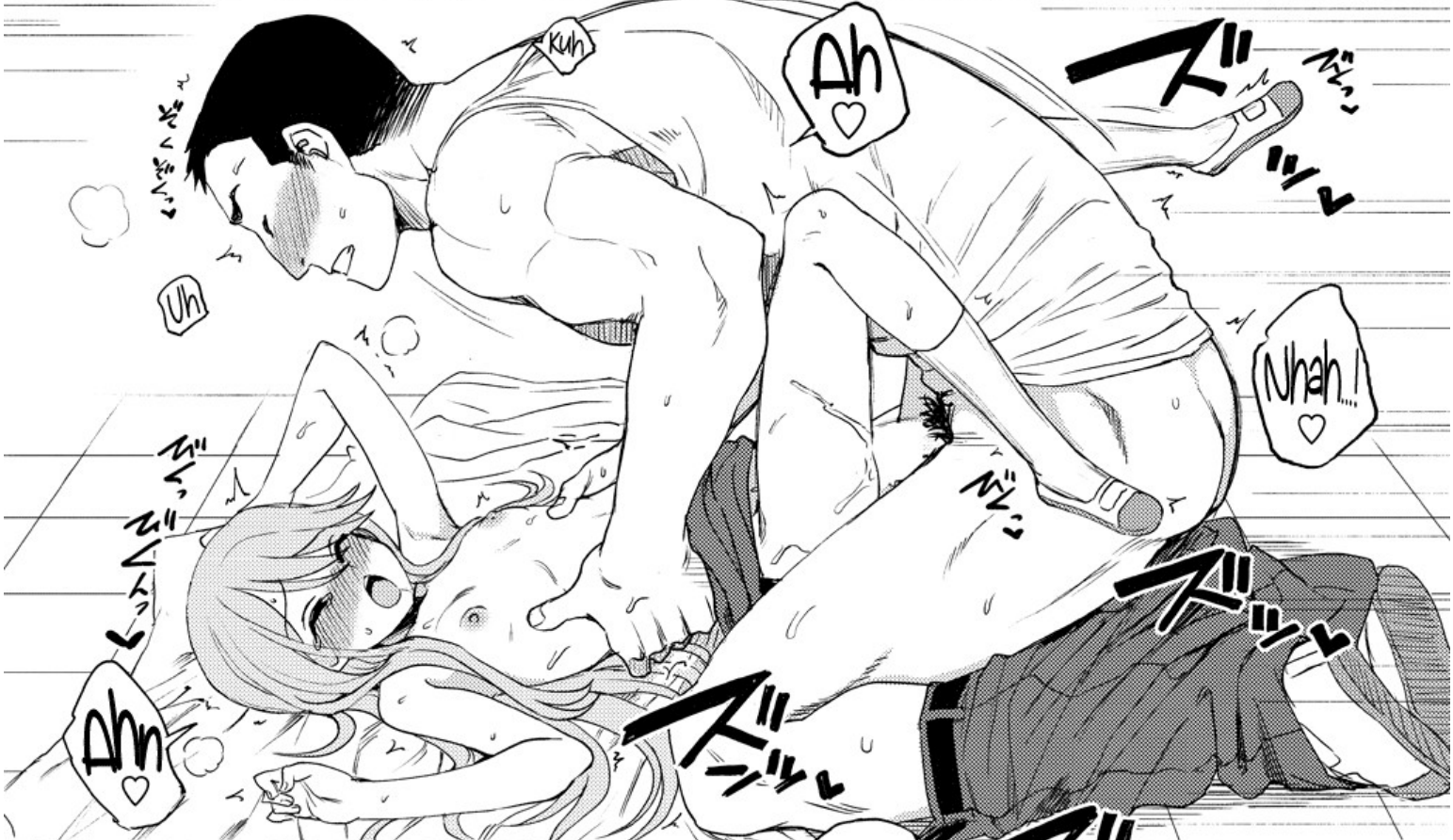


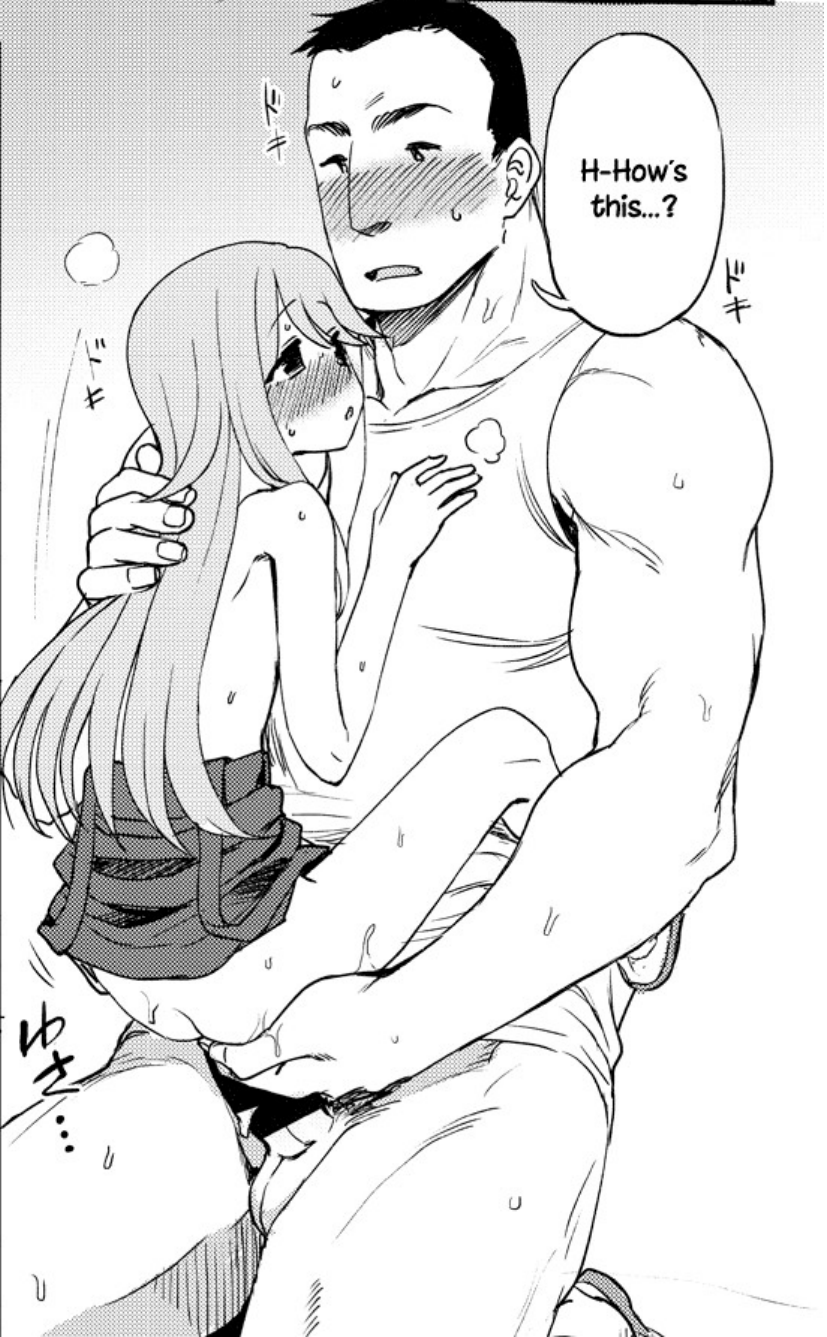
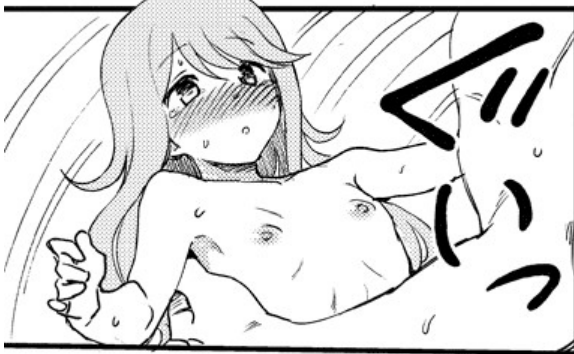
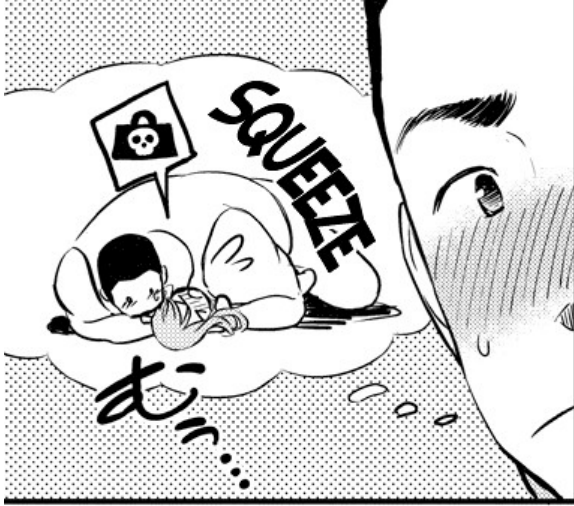
N-No!

I'm fine!

I-if you're worried, we can leave it for another time...





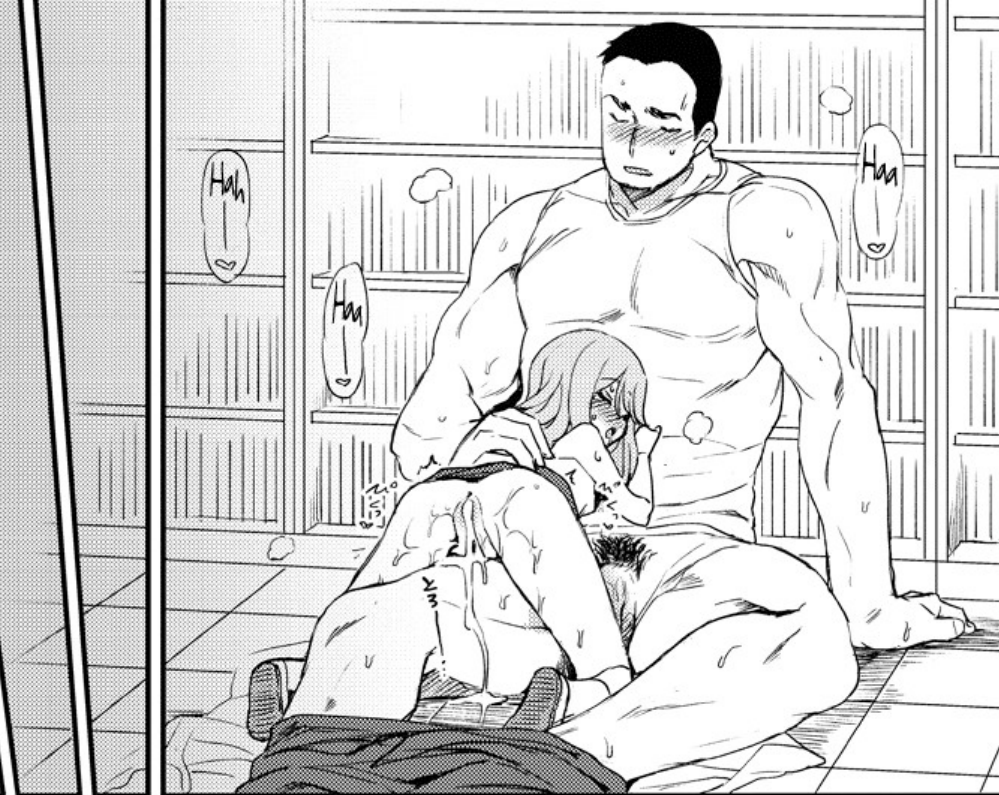




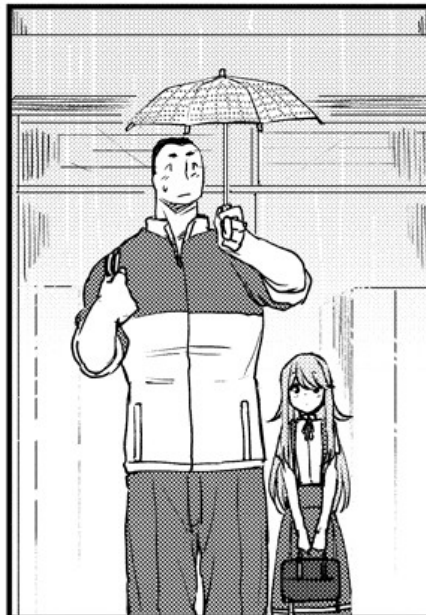




...The rain's still drizzling down, isn't it.



Shimura-san... I'm pretty sure even you'll get wet this way, though.



We can share mine.

Aw, man... And I didn't bring my umbrella with me today...



End



A little rain won't hurt, now will it?



Oh, I don't mind.